

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Makoto KOGA, et al.

Application No.: TBA

Group Art Unit: 2813

Filed: April 15, 2004

Examiner: L. Schillinger

For: SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND METHOD FOR TESTING SEMICONDUCTOR
DEVICE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure provisions of 37 CFR § 1.56, there is hereby provided certain information which the Examiner may consider material to the examination of the subject U.S. patent application. It is requested that the Examiner make this information of record if it is deemed material to the examination of the subject application.

1. Enclosures accompanying this Information Disclosure Statement are:

- 1a. ☒ Form PTO-1449.
- 1b. ☐ Copies of IDS citations.
- 1c. ☐ An English language copy of search report(s) from a counterpart foreign application or a PCT International Search Report.
- 1d. ☐ English language translation (complete or relevant portion(s)) attached to each non-English language publication.
- 1e. ☐ Explanations of Relevancy of References (ATTACHMENT 1(e), hereto) for providing a concise explanation of each non-English publication.
- 1f. ☐ List of Copending Applications (ATTACHMENT 1(f), hereto).
- 1g. ☐ List of Additional Submitted Documents (ATTACHMENT 1(g), hereto).

2. ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is filed under 37 CFR §1.97(b):

(Check either Item 2a or 2b or 2c or 2d)

- 2a. ☐ Within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a Continued Prosecution Application under § 1.53(d);
- 2b. ☐ Within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an international application.
- 2c. ☐ Before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits; or
- 2d. ☐ Before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under § 1.114.

3. ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is filed under 37 CFR § 1.97(c) after the period specified in paragraph 2 above but before the mailing date of any of a Final Office Action under § 1.113, a Notice of Allowance under § 1.311 or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, AND

(Check either Item 3a or 3b; Item 3b to be checked if any reference known for more than 3 months)

- 3a. ☐ The §1.97(e) Statement in Item 5 below is applicable; OR
3b. ☐ The \$180.00 fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is:
☐ enclosed.
☐ to be charged to Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

4. ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is filed under 37 CFR §1.97(d) after the period specified in paragraph 3 above, but on or before payment of the Issue Fee, AND

- 4a. ☐ The § 1.97(e) Statement in Item 5 below is applicable; AND
4b. ☐ The \$180.00 fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is:
☐ enclosed.
☐ to be charged to Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

5. ☐ Statement under § 1.97(e) (*applicable if Item 3a or Item 4 is checked*)

(Check either Item 5a or 5b)

- 5a. ☐ In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.97(e)(1), it is stated that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.
5b. ☐ In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.97(e)(2), it is stated that no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was known by any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

6. ☒ This is a continuation/divisional/continuation-in-part application under 37 CFR § 1.53(b).

(Check appropriate Items 6a and/or 6b)

- 6a. ☒ Copies of the publications listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 which were previously cited in prior application Serial No. 10/320,420, filed on December 17, 2002, and which is relied on for an earlier effective filing date for the subject application under 35 U.S.C. § 120, have been omitted pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.98(d).
6b. ☐ Copies of the publications listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 which were not previously cited in prior application Serial No. _____, filed on _____, and which is relied on for an earlier effective filing date for the subject application under 35 U.S.C. § 120, are provided herewith.

7. ☐ This is a continuation/divisional application under 37 CFR § 1.53(d) or Request for Continued Examination under 37 CFR 1.114.

(Check either Item 7a or 7b)

- 7a. ☐ The Issue Fee has not been paid.
7b. ☐ A Petition to Withdraw from issue under 37 CFR §1.313(c) is filed concurrently herewith or has been granted. A continuation application under 37 CFR § 1.53(d) or Request for Continued Examination under 37 CFR 1.114, after payment of the Issue Fee is proper in accordance with 37 CFR § 1.53(d)(1)(ii) or 37 CFR 1.114(a), respectively.

8. ☐ This is a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement.

(Check either Item 8a or 8b)

- 8a. ☐ This Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR § 1.97(f) supplements the Information Disclosure Statement filed on _____. A bona fide attempt was made to comply with 37 CFR § 1.98, but inadvertent omissions were made. These omissions have been corrected herein. Accordingly, additional time is requested so that this Supplemental IDS can be considered as if properly filed on _____.
8b. ☐ This Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is timely filed within one (1) month of the Notice under 37 CFR § 1.97 and 1.98, mailed _____. (MPEP 609 C(1), Form ¶ 6.49, Rev. 1, Feb. 2000, pp. 600-107)

9. ☐ In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.98, a concise explanation of what is presently understood to be the relevance of each non-English language publication is:

(Check appropriate Items 9a, 9b, 9c and/or 9d)

- 9a. ☐ satisfied because all non-English language publications were cited on the enclosed English language copy of the PCT International Search Report or the search report from a counterpart foreign application indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign office. (See U.S. Patent & Trademark Office's authorization in the Federal Register, Vol. 57, No. 12, January 17, 1992, at page 2031 (Reply to Comment 68).)
9b. ☐ set forth in the application.
9c. ☐ satisfied because an English language translation (complete or relevant portion(s)) is attached to each non-English language publication.
9d. ☐ enclosed as Attachment 1(e), hereto.

10. No admission is made that the information cited in this Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability nor a representation that a search has been made (other than search report(s) from a counterpart foreign application or a PCT International Search Report, if submitted herewith). 37 CFR §§ 1.97(g) and (h).

11. The Commissioner is authorized to credit any overpayment or charge any additional fee required under 37 CFR § 1.17 for this Information Disclosure Statement and/or Petition to Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Dated: 4/15/04
1201 New York Avenue, N.W., Suite 700
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 434-1500
Facsimile: (202) 434-1501

By: C. Joan Gilsdorf
Christine Joan Gilsdorf
Registration No. 43,635

FORM PTO-1449	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 1076.1056DD	APPLICATION NO. TBA
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>		FIRST NAMED INVENTOR Makoto KOGA, et al.	
		FILING DATE April 15, 2004	GROUP ART UNIT 2813

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	FILING DATE
	AA	5,717,652	02-1998	Ooishi			
	AB	6,122,190	09-2000	Ooishi			
	AC	6,233,182	05-2001	Satou et al.			
	AD	6,301,166	10-2001	Ooishi			
	AE	4,698,588	10-1987	Hwang et al.			
	AF	5,677,915	10-1997	Whetsel			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO	
	AG	11210803	02-2001	Japan				
	AH							
	AI							
	AJ							
	AK							
	AL							

OTHER REFERENCES *(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)*

	AM	
	AN	

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	

FORM PTO-1449	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 1076.1056DD	APPLICATION NO. TBA
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>		FIRST NAMED INVENTOR Makoto KOGA, et al.	
		FILING DATE April 15, 2004	GROUP ART UNIT 2813

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	FILING DATE
	BA	5,254,942	10-1993	D'Souza et al.			
	BB	5,396,170	03-1995	D'Souza et al.			
	BC	5,321,277	06-1994	Sparks et al.			
	BD	6,094,389	07-2000	Ahn, Yeong-Chang			
	BE	5,526,365	06-1996	Whetsel, Lee D.			
	BF	6,130,647	10-2000	Zurcher, et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	<u>TRANSLATION</u> YES NO	
	BG							
	BH							
	BI							
	BJ							
	BK							
	BL							

OTHER REFERENCES *(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)*

	BM	
	BN	

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	

FORM PTO-1449	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 1076.1056D	APPLICATION NO. TBA
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>		FIRST NAMED INVENTOR Makoto KOGA, et al.	
		FILING DATE April 15, 2004	GROUP ART UNIT 2813

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	FILING DATE
	CA	6,385,127	05-2002	Ikeda, Shinichiro			
	CB	4,994,732	02-1991	Jeffrey et al.			
	CC	5,311,486	05-1994	Alton et al.			
	CD	4,710,933	12-1987	Powell et al.			
	CE	5,225,775	07-1993	Sekino, Takashi			
	CF	6,006,343	12-1999	Whetsel, Lee D.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	<u>TRANSLATION</u> YES NO	
	CG							
	CH							
	CI							
	CJ							
	CK							
	CL							

OTHER REFERENCES *(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)*

	CM	
	CN	

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	

FORM PTO-1449	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 1076.1056DD	APPLICATION NO. TBA
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>		FIRST NAMED INVENTOR Makoto KOGA, et al.	
		FILING DATE April 15, 2004	GROUP ART UNIT 2813

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	FILING DATE
	DA	5,952,692	09/14/99	Nakazato et al.			
	DB	5,175,836	12/29/92	Morgan			
	DC	5,243,703	09/07/93	Farmwald et al.			
	DD	6,393,541	05/21/02	Fujii			
	DE	6,528,817	03/2003	Koga			
	DF						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO	
	DG							
	DH							
	DI							
	DJ							
	DK							
	DL							

OTHER REFERENCES *(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)*

	DM	
	DN	

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	